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BOROUGH OF DUKINFIELD

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1952

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DUKINFIELD  
SYDNEY H. CLIFFE, LTD., THE RAVENSFIELD PRESS, ASTLEY STREET





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# BOROUGH OF DUKINFIELD.

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## Public Health Committee 1952.

Chairman—Councillor FIELDHOUSE.

Deputy Chairman—Councillor HOWARD

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR TURNER)

ALDERMAN ANDREW

**ALDERMAN F. D. ASHTON.**

ALDERMAN BOWN

ALDERMAN KING

ALDERMAN SAXON.

ALDERMAN SHIRLEY

COUNCILLOR N. T. ASHTON.

COUNCILLOR ASHWORTH

COUNCILLOR BETTERIDGE

COUNCILLOR COOKE

COUNCILLOR GOW

COUNCILLOR HEALEY

COUNCILLOR HINCHLIFFE.

COUNCILLOR HITCHEN

COUNCILLOR JONES

COUNCILLOR RICHARDSON

**COUNCILLOR SENIOR.**

COUNCILLOR SHAW

COUNCILLOR SUMNER.

Staff of the Health Department:

**Medical Officer of Health—** THOMAS HOLME, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

**Sanitary Inspector:** LESLIE BUCKLEY, CERT.S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

**Additional Sanitary Inspector:** JOHN WEBSTER, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

**Clerical Assistant—**ELSIE HEATON.



Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Dukinfield,  
Cheshire.

To the Mayor, Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my fifth Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department. The period covered is the twelve months ending 31st December, 1952, and included is a report on those services in the Borough which are administered by the Divisional Health Committee, on behalf of the Cheshire County Council.

This year, there was a fall in the Death Rate which was reduced to 12.69 from 15.49 in 1951. The Birth Rate also fell and gave a figure of 13.53 per thousand population. There were fewer infant deaths in the town this year, though the rate of 43.65 per thousand related births is still higher than the country as a whole. There were no epidemics to report and the number of cases of infectious disease was comparatively low during 1952.

Attention is drawn to the increased expectation of life at the present time. It is sad, however, to tell of the reluctance on the part of relatives to attend to their aged members in certain instances. It is not uncommon to find an old person living alone and under difficulties, fending for himself, while relatives living nearby accept no responsibility for his care or assistance. In fact, if it were not for the kindness of neighbours, the aged person would find the last years of his life unhappy, difficult and without the comfort for which he once worked to provide for those who now neglect him.

Housing and housing defects continue to occupy a great deal of the time of the department and under the circumstances, much was achieved during the year. Ideally, each house should be provided with its own bathroom, indoor lavatory and with washing facilities for the housewife, but

many of the houses in the town do not have any one of these facilities. The worst houses are gradually and consistently being closed or demolished but I doubt whether large scale clearance areas can be tackled at a time when the waiting list for corporation houses remains so long.

In conclusion, may I express my thanks to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Members of the Committee for all the help and encouragement they have given me and also Mr. Buckley, Mr. Webster and Miss Heaton for their most invaluable help so willingly and cheerfully given.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. HOLME.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Population—1951 Census (including Matley) ... ..	18,445
Population—1952 Registrar General's Estimate ... ..	18,440
Area in Acres ... ..	1,723
Rateable Value ... ..	£81,913
Number of Deaths ... ..	225
Death Rate per thousand population ... ..	12.69
Number of live births ... ..	252
Live Birth Rate per thousand population ... ..	13.53
Number of still births ... ..	6
Still Birth Rate per thousand population ... ..	0.32
Number of infant deaths ... ..	11
Infant Death Rate per thousand related births ... ..	43.65
Number of maternal deaths ... ..	NIL
Maternal Mortality Rate per thousand related births...	NIL

## PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Dukinfield is situated on the left bank of the River Tame which forms its northern and western boundary. The most populated part of the town lies to the northwest, where the river changes its direction and runs southwards. The town itself is mainly situated on gradually sloping ground but the eastern end of the town, which is mainly rural in character rises to a height of 700 feet. The sub-soil is in some places loamy clay and in others sand stone and the outcrop the Permian system. Underneath there are some coal measures but these are not worked.



## SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The Borough is situate in an industrial area and its inhabitants are mainly engaged in cotton manufacturing, engineering, boiler making, rope manufacturing, waggon repairing, soap works, dye works and an electric accumulator works. As the rural part of the town diminishes through new housing construction, there is a corresponding shift in population towards the higher part of the town. This is a healthier area in which to live and as it becomes possible to demolish unfit houses in the older parts of the town, more open spaces will be created and the density of houses reduced. At the present time, there are approximately 52 houses to the acre in the central part of the town. Advantage should be taken of the creation of open spaces by demolition orders and clearance areas, and these should be used to beautify the town centre by the creation of gardens or conversion into shrubberies or playgrounds.

There is still a great deal of female labour employed in the town and neighbouring areas, though it was thought to be slightly less in 1952 because of the recession of trade in the cotton industry.

TABLE I.  
BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY  
DURING THE YEAR 1952.

DEATH RATE PER THOUSAND POPULATION												
BIRTH RATE Rates per thousand population												
	Live	Still	All Causes	Typhoid & P. Typhoid	Whoop- Cough	Small- pox	Diph- theria	Tuber- culosis	Influ- enza	Polio- myelitis	Pneu- monia	
England and Wales	15.3	0.35	11.3	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.04	0.01	0.47	
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns with London	16.9	0.43	12.1	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.28	0.04	0.01	0.52	
160 Smaller Towns	15.5	0.36	11.2	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	0.22	0.04	0.00	0.43	
London Administrative County	17.6	0.34	12.6	—	0.00	—	0.00	0.31	0.05	0.01	0.58	
Dukinfield	13.53	0.32	12.69	—	—	—	—	0.23	—	—	0.68	

TABLE II.  
COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES  
AND INFANTILE MORTALITY FOR THE PERIOD  
1931 — 1952

Year	Death Rate	Birth Rate	Infantile Mortality
1931-1935	13.07 (average)	14.51 (average)	81.2 (average)
1936-1940	13.87 (average)	14.47 (average)	57.74 (average)
1941-1945	13.99 (average)	17.5 (average)	53.72 (average)
1946	13.50	17.4	62.6
1947	12.31	19.82	46.3
1948	15.29	18.15	24.24
1949	12.87	15.78	44.6
1950	14.8	15.26	28.7
1951	15.49	16.03	50.33
1952	12.69	13.53	43.65

TABLE III.  
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 RELATED  
BIRTHS.

	Infantile Mortality
England and Wales	27.6
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	31.2
160 Smaller Towns	25.8
London Administrative County	23.8
<b>Dukinfield</b>	<b>43.65</b>

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 RELATED  
BIRTHS.

	Maternal Mortality
<b>Dukinfield</b>	<b>Nil</b>



TABLE IV.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS 0-1 YEAR,  
ACCORDING TO AGE AND CAUSE.

Cause of Death	Age at Death	Sex
Haemorrhage from the untied and torn umbilical cord resulting from want of attention at birth	few minutes	M
Prematurity	2 hours	F
Intracranial haemorrhage; prematurity; maternal hypertension	2 days	M
Bilateral atelectasis of lungs; sub aortic stenosis	3 days	M
Bronchopneumonia; prematurity	2 weeks	M
Septicaemia and lobar pneumonia	4 weeks	M
Bronchopneumonia	2 months	M
Asphyxia—accidental overlaying	3 months	M
Bronchopneumonia	3 months	M
Shock following burns	4 months	M
Bronchopneumonia	8 months	M



TABLE V.  
LIST OF DEATHS OCCURRING IN AND BELONGING TO  
THE BOROUGH DURING THE YEAR 1952

Cause	Males	Female
Respiratory tuberculosis	2	1
Other tuberculosis	1	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus	7	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	7
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	9
Leukaemia	1	1
Diabetes	—	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	21	13
Coronary disease, angina	10	7
Hypertension with heart disease	—	1
Other heart disease	18	37
Other circulatory disease	3	6
Pneumonia	8	4
Bronchitis	4	6
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	—	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Congenital malformations	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8
Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
All other accidents	6	3
Suicide	2	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	112	113

TABLE VI.

## CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE AND CAUSE.

	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 - 54 years	55 - 64 years	65 - 69 years	70 - 74 years	75 years up	TOTAL
Pulmonary tuberculosis						1				2			3
Other tuberculosis							1						1
Other infective and parasitic diseases									1		1		2
CANCER : Stomach									1		2	3	6
Lung and Bronchus							1	2	1	2	1		7
Breast								2		2		3	7
Uterus									1				1
Other sites							2	2	3	2	2	7	18
Leukaemia				1				1					2
Diabetes									1			1	2
Vascular lesions								2	13	4	3	12	34
Coronary disease ; angina							1	1	7	3		5	17
Hypertension with heart disease										1			1
Other heart diseases							3	3	6	8	5	30	55
Other circulatory diseases										1	4	4	9
Pneumonia	1	4						2		2	2	1	12
Bronchitis								2	3	1	2	2	10
Other respiratory diseases								1		1			2
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum									1				1
Nephritis and nephrosis								2	1		1	1	5
Hyperplasia of prostate												1	1
Congenital malformations						1						1	2
Motor vehicle accidents					1			1					2
All other accidents	1	2	2	1				1				2	9
Suicide								1	1				2
All other causes	2	1				1	1	1	1		1	6	14
TOTAL	4	7	2	2	1	3	9	24	41	29	24	79	225



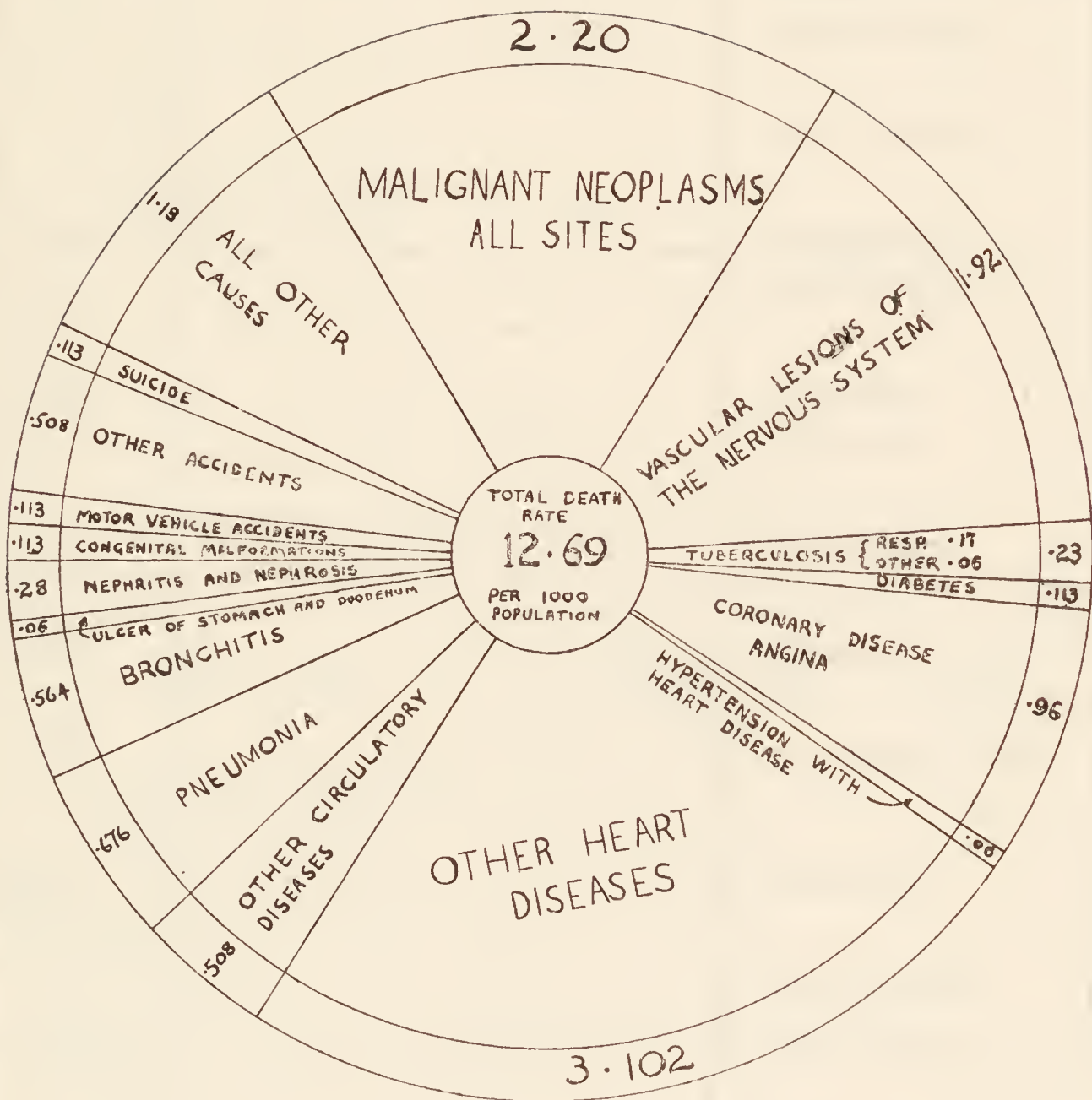


TABLE VII.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever and Scarlatina	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Measles	Poliomyelitis	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	Sonne Dysentery	Meningococcal Infection	Puerperal Pyrexia	Food Poisoning	TOTAL
Under 1 year				5	4	2			1					12
1 - 2 years			1		14	8								23
3 - 4 years			7		24	16								47
5 - 9 years			13	1	10	8		3						35
10 - 14 years			3		1	2		4						10
15 - 24 years			1	1				6						8
25 - 34 years				1			1	5						7
35 - 44 years				4				3						7
45 - 64 years				4				1	1					6
65 and over				11				1						12
Total notifications received			25	27	53	36	1	23	2					167
Deaths				12				3	1					16



TABLE VIII.  
NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS OF T.B. CASES DURING  
THE YEAR.

	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY
Notifications	23	2
Deaths	3	1
Total number of cases on Register 31/12/52	92	17

TABLE IX.  
HOUSING CIRCUMSTANCES OF T.B. CASES.

Type of house	Type of house occupied when notified	Type of house occupied 31/12/52
Very Good (Corporation)	32	69
Very Good (Others)	8	6
Good	18	9
Fairly Good	25	12
Fair	16	11
Poor	6	2
Bad	4	—

TABLE X.

## NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

Year	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	New Cases Notified	Deaths	New Cases Notified	Deaths
1932	25	23	19	4
1933	17	13	10	2
1934	13	13	9	5
1935	22	7	10	3
1936	22	18	12	3
1937	19	18	4	2
1938	18	6	6	3
1939	17	14	6	—
1940	18	14	9	3
1941	12	9	6	3
1942	13	8	4	2
1943	12	8	7	4
1944	6	8	6	1
1945	13	7	3	—
1946	14	4	8	2
1947	10	7	3	2
1948	17	9	4	2
1949	17	8	3	1
1950	10	2	3	1
1951	18	5	3	1
1952	23	3	2	1

TABLE XI.  
NUMBER OF FAMILIES RE-HOUSED DURING THE  
YEAR 1952 WITH AN ANALYSIS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

Reason for Removal	New Houses	Re-let Houses	Bungalows	Flats	TOTAL
Exchange to better class house	3	—	—	—	3
Relief of overcrowding	5	6	—	—	11
Insufficient bedroom accommodation	35	11	—	—	46
Tuberculosis in family	11	4	—	—	15
Other medical reasons	—	1	—	—	1
Closing and demolition orders	11	7	—	—	18
Exchange to smaller house	11	9	—	3	23
Other reasons: mutual exchange for higher or lower rental, etc.	—	22	—	—	22
Staff	1	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	77	60	—	3	140

TABLE XII.  
HOUSES CONDEMNED OR CLOSED — UNFIT FOR  
HUMAN HABITATION.

Year	Number of houses closed or condemned
1947	26
1948	13
1949	12
1950	11
1951	15
1952	15

## INFANT MORTALITY.

There were 11 infant deaths during the year and 10 of these were males—a most interesting fact when one notes that the number of female births exceeded the male births by 22. The rate of 43.65 shows a drop as compared with last year's figure, but is still high—a fact which is partly accounted for by the lowered birth rate for 1952. The majority of deaths were due to prematurity or respiratory infection, though it is distressing to note one death from overlaying and one from burns at the tender ages of 3 months and 4 months respectively.

## DEATH RATE.

There were 225 deaths from all causes belonging to the Borough in 1952, and of these, 112 were males and 113 were females. This figure gives a death rate of 12.69 which is an appreciable reduction over the figure of 15.49 for 1951. It is still slightly higher than that of England and Wales. There were 49 fewer deaths in 1952 and the main reason for this reduction is to be found in deaths due to heart disease. Approximately 60 per cent. of all deaths occurred in people over 65, an indication of the increased expectation of life at the present time, because in 1913 the corresponding figure was only 25 per cent., the remaining 75 per cent. of deaths occurring below the age of 65.

## BIRTH RATE.

There were 252 births during the year, of which 115 were males and 137 females, and of these 3 males and 5 females were illegitimate births. The rate of 13.53 is much lower than last year's figure of 16.03 and also lower than that of the country as a whole. This year's figures are unusual in that the number of girls born far exceeds the number of boys.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

Once again, there were no maternal deaths in the town, a most satisfactory state of affairs.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was remarkably low and only 167 cases were reported of which 53 were due to whooping cough. In other words, there were actually more deaths in the town than there were cases of infectious disease. One of the most frequently occurring infectious diseases, namely measles, was not prevalent during 1951 and only 36 cases were reported. The deaths from diseases in this group numbered 16 which was made up entirely of pneumonia and tuberculosis cases; that is to say, no child died from any one of the commoner infectious diseases. There was an increased incidence of whooping cough over the previous year but no deaths are attributed to this disease, whose mortality throughout the country exceeds that of measles, scarlet fever and diphtheria put together. There is no doubt that immunisation against this disease does provide some measure of protection and I feel that parents should be advised to avail themselves of the opportunity of having their babies protected at an early age with the newer type of vaccines which are now available. By so doing, they may save their children the distress of a prolonged illness, the complications which may follow, and the risk of dying as a result of this disease.

At this point, I would like to draw the attention of the Committee to the protected state of the children under 15 against diphtheria, which I have outlined in the report to the Divisional Health Committee. The further one gets from the epidemic years of diphtheria the less willing do parents become to have their children immunised and the greater becomes the danger of an outbreak from this condition. Only by maintaining a high protection rate among the community will diphtheria be kept at bay and I warn the parents of the town that if the present downward trend continues the occurrence of cases of diphtheria will become inevitable. Immunisation and vaccination are carried out at the School Clinic, King Street, weekly and parents have the choice of presenting their children here or at their own doctor's surgery.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 25 new cases of tuberculosis notified during the year of which 23 were pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary. This is disquieting as it shows an increase of 4 over the previous year and in the case of pulmonary tuberculosis is the highest figure recorded in the last 20 years. This rather gloomy picture is relieved by the reduced number of deaths



and a study of Table X shows that the most consistent feature over the last twenty years has been the gradual reduction in mortality, which has fallen from 27 to 4.

As I pointed out in my report for 1951, close liaison must exist between the general practitioners, local authority and Regional Board, if the problem is to be dealt with properly under the existing set-up. Close co-operation is also required within the Departments of the Local Authority and it is of interest to note that the Housing Committee re-housed 15 families in which there was a sufferer from tuberculosis. This is most gratifying and means that no family need live in conditions conducive to the spread of tuberculosis, for any length of time.

#### MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY.

A second visit was paid to the town in March of this year by No. 3 Mass Miniature Radiography Unit and I am pleased to record an increased response by the public, when compared with the previous visit of this Unit in 1950. Altogether, 3,228 people presented themselves for X-ray and 46 patients were found to have defects of which 4 were shown to have active tuberculosis.

#### HOUSING.

Table XI. has been compiled and kindly supplied by the Housing Manager whom I would like to thank for supplying these details.

An increased number of new houses and re-let houses were allocated during the year; the figures being 137 for 1952 as against 72 for 1951. 18 families were re-housed from houses on which closing or demolition orders had been made, compared with 11 in 1951 and there was relief of overcrowding in 11 cases as against 8. In other words, the picture is brighter than it was in 1951 and although housing conditions in many cases are far from satisfactory, there is a very slow but gradual improvement in living conditions in the town. Since 1947, 92 houses have been either closed or demolished because of defects which have rendered them unfit for human habitation. A picture of the position year by year will be found in Table XII.

#### FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

There are no cases of food poisoning or of food poisoning outbreaks to report during the year.

## MILK AND ICE CREAM.

During the year, 47 milk samples were taken by the Department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. Five cases proved to be unsatisfactory the results of which are indicated below :

Sample No.	Designation	Result of Examination	Action Taken
2	Accredited	Tubercle Bacilli present	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries notified. Affected cow taken.
11	Ungraded	Methylene blue test unsatisfactory	Health Department of authority concerned notified.
25	Ungraded	Tubercle bacilli present	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries notified. Herd sold. Farmer now producing T.T. milk.
35	Ungraded	Tubercle bacilli present	Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries notified. Affected cow taken.
38	Tuberculin tested	Methylene blue test unsatisfactory	Follow-up samples satisfactory.

No action was necessary under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

All Ice Cream samples were placed in Grade 1.

The Committee has frequently expressed concern at the number of samples of milk which contained tubercle bacilli. This concern is reflected in the department and it is noted with satisfaction that this area will, in a short time, be supplied only with T.T. or pasteurised milk.

## WATER SUPPLY.

I am indebted to Mr. M. T. B. Whitson, Engineer and Manager of the Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge and Dukinfield (District) Water-works, for the following report on the quality and quantity of the Borough water supply during 1952.

1. The quality and quantity of the water supply have both been satisfactory.
2. Bacteriological examinations of piped supplies.

<i>Type of Water</i>	<i>Samples taken.</i>	<i>Results</i>
Filtered water taken directly after filtration	6	Excellent
Filtered water—tap samples taken at various points in the Borough	45	Excellent
Raw	None.	None.
Chemical Analysis	1	Quite satisfactory

3. Plumbo Solvency. Calcium Carbonate added before filtration .  
Samples taken from same supply were quite satisfactory.
4. No form of contamination has presented itself.
5. Population supplied from public water mains :-
  - (a) Direct to Houses .....18,445 (Estimated)
  - (b) By means of standpipes ..... None



# CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE BOROUGH'S WATER SUPPLY.

Source (filtrate main tap sample) ... ..	Brushes Supply
Date ... ..	13/2/53
pH Value ... ..	7.12
Colour in 2 ft. Glass Tube—mm Hazen sol. ... ..	5
Turbidity—Silica Standard—ppm ... ..	2.5
<hr/>	
	P.P.M.
Total solids dried at 110°C ... ..	—
Suspended solids dried at 110°C ... ..	—
Free acidity as CO <sub>2</sub> ... ..	2.0
Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ... ..	13.7
Hardness by soap test—Carbonate hardness ... ..	14.0
Non-Carbonate hardness ... ..	32.0
Total ... ..	46.0
Combined Chlorine CL <sub>2</sub> ... ..	14.5
Nitrates—Nitric Nitrogen as N <sub>2</sub> ... ..	0.36
Nitrites—Nitrous Nitrogen as N <sub>2</sub> ... ..	0.011
Free and Saline Ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub> ... ..	0.106
Albuminoid Ammonia as NH <sub>3</sub> ... ..	0.024
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hrs. at 27°C ... ..	0.60
Iron in solution as Fe ... ..	—
Manganese as Mn ... ..	0.06
Silica SiO <sub>2</sub> ... ..	10.1
Alumina AL <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> ... ..	0.90
Alumina as Sulphate of Alumina ... ..	6.3
Lead as Pb taken up in 24 hrs. ... ..	0.29
<hr/>	
REPORT—This sample is quite satisfactory.	

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

This service continues to be administered by the Cheshire County Council and a report will be found in a later section.

## VENEREAL DISEASES.

There is a centre at Ashton-under-Lyne District Infirmary for patients suffering from venereal diseases. The service is administered by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

## HOSPITAL SERVICES.

The area is covered by the Ashton, Hyde, Glossop Group of Hospitals and approximately 75 per cent. of all hospital cases in the town are treated at the Ashton General Hospital. The remaining 25 per cent. are referred to the Manchester Hospitals or private nursing homes.

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# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1952**

Public Health Department,  
Town Hall, Dukinfield

To the Chairman and Gentlemen of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report upon the sanitary conditions which exist in the Borough.

The appointment of the Additional Sanitary Inspector in 1951 has enabled the department to carry out more efficiently the following up of housing complaints, of which there were 332 as against 298 in 1951. These complaints consisted mainly of defects to the old type of cottage property in the town.

It has again been possible to devote time to the sampling of milk and ice cream, 40 milk sampling visits and 8 ice cream sampling visits being made, as against 33 and 5 during 1951. Results of this sampling are included in the Medical Officer's portion of the Report.



During the year under review, 5,106 visits of inspection and re-inspection have been made under the various Acts by your Sanitary Inspectors, an increase of 467 visits.

A further 15 houses of the cottage type property were represented as unfit for human habitation during the year; in each case, it would have been uneconomic to have asked the owners to bring the property to a reasonable state of human habitation. The Housing Department staff are very co-operative in re-housing tenants of condemned property. During the year, 5 houses have been demolished.

Routine inspections of food shops in the district are made regularly.

Inspection of licensed premises is also carried out and improvements have been effected in four cases. It is hoped that the time is not far distant when all cases requiring improved sanitary accommodation will be brought up to date.

During the year, 10 visits in connection with smoke abatement were made. The house chimney is one of the greatest offenders in this respect and much emission of smoke could be reduced by the fixing of modern slow burning fuel type approved grates, the greater use of coke, low temperature carbonisation fuel, gas and electricity.

Conversion of waste water closets continues at a slow pace; 13 waste water closets were converted to the fresh water carriage system at dwellinghouses, as against 6 in 1951. Latrine closets were converted at two of the schools in the town.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman, Councillor G. E. Fieldhouse, J.P., the Health Committee; Dr. T. Holme, Medical Officer of Health; Mr. J. Webster, Additional Sanitary Inspector and Miss Elsie Heaton for their invaluable help and support during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

LESLIE BUCKLEY,  
*Sanitary Inspector.*

## INSPECTORS' VISITS.

### General Sanitation :

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drainage: Primary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Drainage: Reinspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	510
Barbed Wire Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Warble Fly	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Foot and Mouth Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Petroleum Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inland Waterways	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Factories, with power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	147
Factories, without power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Bakehouses, with power	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Theatres and places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Refuse disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Scrap Metal Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Pet Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rag Flock Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	186

— 1632

## Housing.

Primary visits: Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	304
Re-inspections: Public Health Act	...	...	...	...	2094
Primary visits: Housing Act	...	...	...	...	18
Re-inspections: Housing Act	...	...	...	...	53
Verminous premises: primary visits	...	...	...	...	6
Verminous premises: re-inspections	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous housing visits	...	...	...	...	105
				—	2584

## Infectious Disease:

Primary enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
							—	52

## Meat and Food Inspection:

Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Fishmongers' and Poulterers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	345
Greengrocers' and Fruiterers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Milk Distributors' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	228
Ice Cream Distributors' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Restaurants and Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
School' Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Milk Sampling Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Ice-Cream Sampling Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Miscellaneous Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
							—	838
							—	
							TOTAL VISITS	5106
								—

## INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1	(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	332
	(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose ... ..	2147
2.		Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	247
3	(a)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	15
	(b)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished as unfit for human habitation ... ..	5
4		Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ... ..	227
5		Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which informal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... ..	247
6		Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice :-	
	(a)	by owners ... ..	59
	(b)	by local authority in default of owners ... ..	2

## NOTICES SERVED — PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Number of informal notices served ... ..	247
Number of informal notices complied with ... ..	227
Number of Statutory Notices served ... ..	47
Number of Statutory Notices complied with ... ..	85

## DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION.

Number of rooms disinfected—infectious disease... ..	73
Number of rooms disinfested—verminous premises... ..	94
Number of blocked water closets released ... ..	584
Number of blocked house gullies released ... ..	712
Number of blocked house drains released ... ..	1296



## CONVERSION OF WASTE WATER CLOSETS TO FRESH WATER CARRIAGE SYSTEM.

Number of waste water closets converted—houses ...	13
Number of waste water closets converted—schools ...	35

---

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

### FOOD SHOPS.

During the year, 478 visits were paid to various types of food shops, In 28 cases, notices were complied with—mainly consisting of re-decoration, alterations and provision of a hot water supply by the installation of gas or electric geysers.

94 shops were registered for the sale of bottled milk.

### SCHOOL CANTEENS.

School Canteens continue to be inspected and once again I should like to pay tribute to those workers in charge and their staffs, for the very high standard of cleanliness and efficiency which has been maintained ; without exception, all canteens are kept at this high standard.

As was the case last year, at the request of the Education Authorities, fumigation with D.D.T. smokers has taken place during school holidays. This fumigation has been justified, since it has been noticed that flies and insect pests are conspicuous by their absence.

### ICE CREAM.

45 premises are registered for the sale of Ice Cream, which is stored in electrically operated refrigerators. The shops have been inspected, 44 inspections being made, and temperatures of refrigerators checked.

Three modern travelling sales vans operate in the town. These vehicles are kept and maintained to a high degree of cleanliness and efficiency. They are fitted with a hot water supply. During the year, 8 ice cream samples were taken ; 6 of them were graded grade 1 ; 2 samples were spoiled and no result was obtained.



## CONDEMNATION OF TINNED FOODS AND OTHER UNSOUND FOODS.

The following table gives the figures of tinned foods, etc., which have been condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Oxtail Soup—6 tins .....	6 lbs.
Luncheon Meat—7 tins .....	8 lbs. 8 ozs.
Cooked Shoulder Ham—7 tins .....	62 lbs. 3 ozs.
Pork Brawn—1 tin .....	12 ozs.
Jellied Veal—15 tins .....	90 lbs.
Chopped Pork Butts—1 tin .....	1 lb. 13 ozs.
Pork—1 tin .....	4 lbs.
Rabbit—1 tin .....	8 ozs.
Stewed Steak—1 tin .....	1 lb.
Whole Chicken—4 tins .....	16 lbs.
Pork .....	10 lbs. (tainted)
Buttock and Rump Beef .....	150 lbs.
Hindquarters Beef .....	141 lbs.
Liver Trimmings .....	18 lbs.
Bacon .....	10 lbs. 15 ozs.
Oranges—1 tin .....	11 ozs.
Greengages—1 tin .....	2 lbs. 8 ozs.
Plums—5 tins .....	8 lbs. 3 ozs.
Pineapple Juice—15 tins .....	17 lbs. 13 ozs.
Apple Puree—4 tins .....	3 lbs. 1 oz.
Pears—1 tin .....	1 lb.
Sliced Apple—12 tins .....	11 lbs. 15 ozs.
Pineapple titbits—8 tins .....	6 lbs.
Tinned Jam—50 tins .....	37 lbs. 8 ozs.
Peaches—24 tins .....	3 lbs. 12 oz.
Haricot Beans .....	140 lbs.
Baked Beans—17 tins .....	14 lbs. 2 ozs.
Tomato—51 tins .....	27 lbs. 10 ozs.
Carrots—1 tin .....	1 lb. 14 ozs.
Salmon—1 tin .....	8 ozs.

Processed Peas—2 tins .....	1 lb.
Garden Peas—1 tin .....	1 lb.
Beetroot—5 tins .....	6 lbs. 1 oz.
Evaporated Milk—38 tins .....	76 pints
Skimmed Milk—3 tins .....	6 pints
Full Cream Milk—10 tins .....	20 pints
Duck Eggs—1,040.	

## MEAT INSPECTION.

Since the closing down of the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse in Wharf Street, Dukinfield, in April, 1951, meat has not been inspected by your inspectors at the source of killing. The meat supplied to the Dukinfield shops is supplied from a Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, situate outside the Borough.

## WEIGHTS AND MEASURES—SAMPLES.

The following letter and report has been supplied by the Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures Department, Cheshire County Council.

“With the exception of two milks, all the samples were reported to be of genuine quality. Even in the case of one of the two non-standard milks the application of the Freezing Point (Hortvet) test proved that it was of abnormal quality and therefore classed as genuine. Also it is quite possible that the other milk below standard was from poor quality cows.

STACEY HALLARD,

Chief Inspector.”

No. of Samples taken	Samples	Result of Analysis Reported	
		Genuine	Against
1	Aspirin tablets ... ..	1	—
1	Celery Cheese Spread ... ..	1	—
1	Flowers of Sulphur ... ..	1	—
1	Gelatine — powdered ... ..	1	—
1	Glycerine ... ..	1	—
2	Gravy Browning ... ..	2	—
1	Honey, Glycerine and Lemon ... ..	1	—
1	Juniper Back and Kidney Pills ... ..	1	—
1	Lemon Cheese ... ..	1	—
41	Milks ... ..	39	2
1	Phenacetin Head and Nerve powders ...	1	—
1	Salad Cream ... ..	1	—
1	Shredded Suet ... ..	1	—
2	Table Jellies — Orange ... ..	2	—
1	White Pepper — Ground ... ..	1	—
		55	2

Samples reported as non-standard :-

No.	Sample	Analysis	Remarks
1.	Milk	Naturally deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 2.3 per cent.	Bottle purchased from retailer. Three others from different producers taken at same time from same trader were genuine
2.	Milk	10 per cent deficient in fat	Retail sample. Two others from different producers taken from same trader were genuine

#### LICENSED PREMISES.

There are 37 licensed premises situate in the Borough and 103 visits were paid during the year. All the premises are maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition. At 4 of them, improvements have taken place.

No. of licensed premises in the Borough ... ..	37
No. of visits paid ... ..	103
No. of informal notices complied with ... ..	4

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

During the year, 234 inspections were made as against 186 in 1951. 14 visits were paid to outworkers premises; no outworker worked in unsatisfactory conditions. 85 visits were paid to bakehouses.

#### INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

PREMISES	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Loc. Authority's	8	13	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Loc. Authority	99	221	11	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>-</b>



## CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-		-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences					
(a) insufficient	1	1	1	1	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	10	5	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
<i>TOTAL</i>	11	6	1	1	-

## DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS.

### ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938

No suspected cases were reported during the year.

### SWINE FEVER ORDER, 1938

No suspected cases were reported during the year.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS — RODENT CONTROL

One full-time rodent operator is employed, in the inspection of the district for rodents and treatment where necessary. During the year, two sewer treatments were completed with satisfactory results. Sewer treatment is invaluable in keeping down surface infestations. The sewer treatment was carried out by the authority's own rodent operator with the help of a labourer loaned from the Borough Surveyor's department. It was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year.

	Local Auth.	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	Others	Total
Total No. of properties in area... ..	3	5829	16	753	6601
Total No of properties inspected ... ..	3	1459	16	707	2185
Total No. of properties found to be infested and treated ... ..	1	94	-	30	125

# National Health Service

The following report covers those services administered by the Cheshire County Council through the Stalybridge and Dukinfield Divisional Health Service.

## DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman—July 1951 to June 1952: Alderman Mrs. L. M. Gillott.

Chairman—July 1952 to December 1952: Councillor N. T. Ashton, J.P.

Deputy Chairman—July 1951 to June 1952:

Councillor N. T. Ashton, J.P.

Deputy Chairman—July 1952 to December 1952:

Councillor J. Porter, J.P.

## COMMITTEE.

Representing the Local Health Authority:-

County Councillor A. Bown, J.P.

County Councillor J. Turner, J.P.

Representing Dukinfield M.B.:-

Councillor N. T. Ashton, J.P.

Alderman W. Andrew (to June, 1952)

Councillor G. Fieldhouse, J.P.

Councillor J. S. B. Gow

Councillor G. Hinchliffe (to June 1952)

Councillor A. Hitchen

Councillor Dr. N. W. R. Lucas (to June 1952)

Councillor F. Richardson

Councillor E. Senior

Co-opted Members:-

Dr. J. Macfie, (Cheshire County Local Medical Committee)

Alderman G. Saxon, O.B.E., J.P., (Dukinfield and Stalybridge  
Divisional (Education) Executive)

Mrs. E. A. High, (Cheshire County Nursing Association)

Mrs. J. Ashton (Co-opted by Divisional Health Committee)

## STAFF

Clerk to Committee—Philip W. Musther, F.C.I.S.

Divisional Medical Officer—Thomas Holme, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant County Medical Officer—Ena M. Cant, M.B., CH.B.

Chief Clerk—A. Clough.

Clerical Assistants—J. T. Petrie (H.M. Forces until August 1952), Misses J. Norton, D. Ollerenshaw, M. Thorpe (resigned February), K. Walton (resigned September) and K. Sellars (appointed November).

Ambulance Supervisor—J. Roebuck.

Health Visitors—Miss W. Grimstone.

Miss I. Asquith (resigned February)

Miss W. Jones (appointed June).

District Nurses—Miss M. Stratton and Miss E. Ambler.

School Nurse—Mrs. E. M. Thomas.

Midwives—Miss A. Lees and Miss L. Bradley.

Authorised Officer—J. Thompson.

Physiotherapist—Mrs. C. Cooke

Dental Surgeons—Miss L. Kippen, L.D.S., D.P.D.

Mr. E. S. Poulter, L.D.S.

(part-time basis)

Specialists :-

Ophthalmic Surgeon—O. Taylor, M.B., CH.B.

Orthopaedic Surgeon—J. L. Mangan, F.R.C.S.

Paediatrician—J. D. Allan, M.D., F.R.C.P.

Tuberculosis Physician—E. Ratner, M.D., D.P.H.

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon—E. M. Innes, F.R.C.S., D.L.O.

General Practitioners attending Welfare Centre, Dukinfield, on a sessional basis—N. W. R. Lucas, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., J. Macfie, M.B., CH.B., J. R. Wardley, M.D. and C. N. Gordon, M.B., CH.B.



## CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

The three Welfare Centres in the Division are situated as follows:-

Dukinfield—King Street, Dukinfield.

Stalybridge—Mechanics' Institute.

Oakwood Mill, Millbrook.

Sessions are held as follows:-

King Street—Wednesday mornings and afternoons and Thursday  
afternoons.

Millbrook—Monday afternoons.

Mechanics' Institute—Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

### DUKINFIELD WELFARE CENTRE.

Drastic changes took place in the Child Welfare Service in Dukinfield during 1952 because, in addition to closing 212, Astley Street, there were changes in both nursing and medical staff.

Since the inauguration of the Maternity and Child Welfare Service, the Dukinfield clinics have been conducted by General Practitioners in the town who attended in rotation by arrangement with the Practitioners themselves. As an economy measure the County Council resolved that the Divisional Medical Officer should conduct the Thursday afternoon clinic, the one on Wednesday to remain with the General Practitioners. This system was put into operation during the year and is working satisfactorily. Nurse Asquith resigned her appointment in February and Nurse Jones replaced her and took up duties in June.

In February following a report that structural defects in the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic were such as to render the building dangerous, the Maternity and Child Welfare and Nursing Services Sub-Committee inspected the building and also the School Clinic premises. As a result of this inspection, it was decided to recommend the removal of the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic to the School Clinic after alterations had been carried out there with the approval of the Education

Committee. However, before these recommendations were carried out, the condition of 212, Astley Street became so dangerous that the Clinic was transferred in August and it therefore became necessary to carry out the alterations to the School Clinic after the transfer, with the result that sessions had to be cancelled for several weeks.

In our opinion the move to King Street was wise and events have shown the decision of the Committee to be a sound one. Its central position in the town makes the Clinic easier to reach for the majority of mothers and the sessions are very well attended. In addition both the Education and Health Authority Clinics are now under one roof and there is a greater continuity of services than has ever been possible before. Advice can be sought on ante-natal, child health, school medical, orthopaedic, dental, eye and ear and nose and throat problems and treatment can be obtained in these cases.

#### VOLUNTARY WORKERS.

The work of the Voluntary Workers has again been invaluable in Stalybridge and Dukinfield and we would like to express our thanks and that of the Nursing Staff for the help they have so willingly and cheerfully given.

#### GENERAL.

During the year the total births in the Division numbered 644 as against 650 in 1951, the births in Stalybridge increased by 41 while the Dukinfield figure shows a fall of 53. It is of interest to note that of the Stalybridge births 151 occurred at home, an increase of 26 over last year's figure, while hospital confinements dropped by 9. In Dukinfield on the other hand there was a reduction in confinements both at home and in hospital. The number of stillbirths remained approximately the same as 1951 and accounted for 3.3 per cent. of the total births.

The work of the Health Visitors continues to be as varied and exacting as ever and during the year it will be noted 13,187 visits were paid of which 10,726 were in connection with advice on baby welfare.

	1952	1951
Total births in the division—livebirths ... ..	644	650
Total births in the division—stillbirths ... ..	21	22
Total number transfers into the Division ... ..	63	94
Total number of Welfare Sessions held ... ..	277	257
Total number children attending for first time 0-1 year...	416	490
Total number of children attending for first time 1-5 years	94	84
Total number of attendances 0-1 year ... ..	7141	7667
Total number of attendances 1-5 years ... ..	3242	2955
Total number of visits to new births ... ..	753	756
Total number of secondary visits ... ..	9973	13603
Total number of other visits ... ..	2461	4650

TABLE A.

## CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Quarter	March			June			September			December		
	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B	S/B	D/F	M/B
Clinic												
New Cases 0-1 yr.	60	41	16	45	43	26	43	4	15	58	45	20
New Cases 1-5 yrs.	12	3	5	13	5	6	8	12	7	9	8	6
Total attendances 0-1 year	815	665	120	900	849	213	888	766	264	815	585	263
Total attendances 1-5 years	439	142	65	523	250	117	411	320	137	430	254	154



The following table indicates the total births in the Division and place of confinement :-

TABLE B.

	Dukinfield			Stalybridge		
	Live		Still	Live		Still
	1952	1951	1952	1952	1951	1951
Lake Hospital	124	156	3	183	192	9
Other Maternity Homes	44	37	—	56	32	—
Domiciliary Confinement	86	108	1	151	125	5
Total	254	301	4	390	349	14

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.						1952	1951
No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	23	25
No. of new cases	...	...	...	...	...	42	41
No. of attendances	...	...	...	...	...	232	248
No. of patients on whom Rh. factor was							
investigated						39	40
No. of patients on whom Wasserman test							
was performed						37	37

#### POST-NATAL CLINICS.

No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	10	11
No. of new cases	...	...	...	...	...	24	26
No. of attendances	.....	...	...	...	...	42	36

#### SPECIALIST CLINICS.

##### Ophthalmic (under 5 years)

No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	57	59
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	8	10
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	22	64

##### Paediatric (under 5 years)

No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	11	6
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	12	26

##### Ear, Nose and Throat (under 5 years)

No. of sessions held	...	...	...	...	...	10	9
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
Total attendances	...	...	...	...	...	2	4

##### Physiotherapy (under 5 years)

						1952	1951
Total attendances for interview by Orthopaedic Surgeon						250	285
Total attendances at Physiotherapist's Clinic...	...	...	...	...	...	508	620
Total attendances for U.V.R. treatment	...	...	...	...	...	2266	2686

## DENTAL TREATMENT.

The number of ante-natal and post-natal mothers attending is still very low and only 3 mothers came for treatment and made 7 visits. The number of children under 5 who attended increased to 45 this year compared with 17 in 1951. It is felt that now all the clinics in Dukinfield are under one roof and the Welfare and Dental Clinics are held on the same day, mothers will be encouraged to attend the Dental Clinics.

	1952	1951
Ante-natal patients—new cases ... ..	1	—
Ante-natal patients—attendances ... ..	1	—
Post-natal patients—new cases ... ..	2	1
Post-natal patients—attendances ... ..	6	1
Children under 5 years—new cases ... ..	45	17
Children under 5 years—attendances... ..	54	160
Dentures supplied ... ..	2	—

## DAY NURSERIES.

The Day Nursery was redecorated during the year and the exterior painted.

The cost of running the nursery continues to increase and in October the Committee was presented with the figures prepared by the County Treasurer for the year 1951. The costs per child per day and percentage attendances for the last four years are :-

TABLE C.

Year	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
County Average child/day	7/6½d.	8/3½d.	9/6¾d.	9/3½d.
Dukinfield Average child/day	9/4½d.	10/0¾d.	9/6¾d.	9/11½d.
% attendance	None available	84%	77%	79%
County Average	—	87%	91%	94%
Dukinfield				



It is natural to ask oneself the question "are these rising costs not prohibitive and making the provision of Day Nurseries an expensive luxury?" We feel that Nurseries in industrial areas are worth while especially to-day when so much female labour is being employed particularly in the cotton industry and there is no doubt that the children receive far better attention there than is the case when they are left with a neighbour, sometimes at great expense to the mother. We do feel, however, that the practice of admitting babies under the age of 18 months is bad unless circumstances are exceptional as in the case of unmarried mothers or widows.

The nursery fees were increased by the County from October, 1952, under Section 5 of the National Health Service Act, 1952, and the new charges had some effect on the numbers on the waiting list bringing the total down to 5 at 31st December, 1952, as against 32 last year. The new fees are :-

- (a) For children of women living as single (whether single, separated, divorced or widowed ... .. 2/- per day
- (b) For children of widowers and of married couples where one of the parents is unable to work ... .. 3/- per day
- (c) For children of married couples when both parents are working ... .. 4/- per day

In an attempt to economise the Committee obtain supplies of meat, groceries, greengroceries, milk and bread from firms who offered more favourable terms than those who had served the nursery in the past. The wisdom of obtaining perishable foodstuffs at a cheaper rate is open to doubt and it is possible that inferior quality goods may be supplied. The Committee is aware of this danger and the position will be watched.

The total attendance during the year was 8,777 which was slightly lower than the figure for 1951. There were no outbreaks or epidemics to report and the health of the children remained good.

	1952	1951
Total attendances 0-2 years ... ..	2935	2954
Total attendances 2-5 years ... ..	6012	5965
Average attendance per child for 12 months (in days) 0-2 years	141	123
Average attendance per child for 12 months (in days) 2-5 years	288	264
Average attendance per day ... ..	38	36
New cases admitted ... ..	16	12
Waiting list as at 31/12/52 ... ..	5	32
No. of mothers in employment ... ..	44	35
No. of medical examinations carried out ... ..	414	391
No. of children receiving sunlight treatment ...	8	10
No. of children attending specialist clinics ...	1	Nil

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

During 1952 a greater number of vaccinations was performed than in 1951. The figures are 1951—350; 1952—459. This increase may be partly due to the fact that the public were more easily persuaded to present their babies for vaccination in view of the outbreak of alastrim in nearby Lancashire boroughs. At the time of writing this report there is another outbreak of smallpox in the area and the safeguard of successful vaccination cannot be too heavily stressed.

As in the previous year immunisation against diphtheria was cancelled during the summer months in order to avoid any possibility of poliomyelitis arising from the injections. There was a fall in the number of children protected against diphtheria and I feel that this is due to the suspension of immunisation for three months in the year. Every effort is made at the clinics to persuade mothers to have their children protected and this is augmented by press and cinema publicity.

# VACCINATIONS 1952.

TABLE D.

Age at 31/12/52	—1	1	2-4	5-14	15 and over	Total
Born in year	1952	1951	1950-48	1947-38	Before 1937	
Vaccinated	95	92	59	95	37	378
Re-Vaccinated	—	—	—	6	75	81

# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

1938-1952.

The following table shows the total number of children under the age of 15 years protected against diphtheria and the percentage of the total child population protected :-

TABLE E.

Age at 31/12/52	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
Born in year	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1943-47	1938-42	under 15
Immunised	58	204	260	303	486	1920	1726	4957
% Immunised			39.09				63.86	54.70

Total number of children immunised by general practitioners

at their own surgeries during 1952

111

Total number of children immunised at Clinics during 1952

...

237

348



AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The Ambulance Service in the Dukinfield area continues to be administered by the Hyde Divisional Health Committee.

TABLE F.

	Total No. Journeys	Total No. patients carried	No. of accident and emergency journeys included in Column 2	Total Mileage
DIRECTLY } Amb. PROVIDED } Cars.	1,865 239	4,153 298	418 27	14,703 2,339

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.  
TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
On register at 1/1/52 ... ..	105	88	22	28	243
Notified during 1952 ... ..	26	19	3	2	50

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M	F	M	F	
0-1 year ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 years ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
15-45 years ... ..	—	—	1	1	2
45-65 years ... ..	2	1	1	—	4
65 and over ... ..	1	—	—	—	1

The following items of nursing equipment have been issued from the stores based at the Ambulance Depot, King Street, Stalybridge, and at the office of the Duly Authorised Officer, Dukinfield :-

Bed Cradles ... ..	4	Bed Pans ... ..	40
Air Rings ... ..	26	Mackintosh Sheets ... ..	15
Back Rests ... ..	37	Feeding Cups ... ..	1
Urinals ... ..	20	Inhaler ... ..	1
Wheel Chairs ... ..	9	Hot Water Bottle ... ..	1
Crutches ... ..	3 pairs		

A total sum of £6 0s. 0d. has been received in rentals for this equipment.

## CONVALESCENT HOME TREATMENT.

A sum of £125 was once again granted by the County Health Committee to be used in the financial assistance of persons requiring Convalescent Home treatment within the Division. Arrangements are still in operation with the Convalescent Homes at Llandudno, St. Annes, Marple and West Kirby. 13 patients were admitted during the year: 6 adult females, 6 adult males, and 1 female school child. 3 of the patients paid the whole cost of treatment, 10 received financial assistance. In 3 cases the Committee considered applications for reduction of the assessment on the grounds of hardship and a reduction was made in one case.

## DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

The work of the Domestic Help Service continues to increase. The establishment of the service at 31st December, 1952, was 10 full-time and 9 part-time domestic helps, the whole of the staff being engaged in a temporary capacity.

No. of cases attended by domestic helps :-	1952	1951
(a) Maternity cases, sick and nursing mothers ... ..	12	23
(b) General Sickness ... ..	15	20
(c) Aged and chronic sick ... ..	104	107
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	131	150
	<hr/>	<hr/>

It will be noticed that the total cases attended has fallen by 19 but it is significant that the working hours have increased by 5,102 to 25,670, the average number of cases attended weekly being 70.

104 of the total 131 were long-term continuation cases of the aged person or chronic sick type, a percentage of 79.39, an increase of 8.06 over 1951. The service is being used increasingly for this type of case and the maternity case is now a rarity.

REPORT OF THE DULY AUTHORISED OFFICER, Mr. J. THOMPSON IN RESPECT OF WORK CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE AREA OF THE STALYBRIDGE AND DUKINFELD HEALTH DIVISION DURING THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1952.

1. Precis of the cases dealt with under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

	Male	Female
Cases dealt with under Section 20 Lunacy Act, 1890, i.e. admitted to hospital as cases of urgency on the order of the Authorised Officer ... ..	2	2
Cases dealt with under Section 21 Lunacy Act, 1890, i.e. admitted to hospital on the order of a magistrate for observation for 14 days ... ..	4	2
Cases dealt with under Section 16 Lunacy Act, 1890, i.e. certified as being of unsound mind... ..	4	8
Cases dealt with under Section 22 Lunacy Act, 1890, i.e. patient left in care of relatives by magistrate after notification of case by authorised officer ... ..	1	1
Cases dealt with under Section 1 Mental Treatment Act, 1930 i.e. admitted to hospital as voluntary patients ... ..	1	5

In addition to the above 3 male and 6 female patients were dealt with as out-patients where their condition was not sufficiently serious to warrant their admission to hospital. In 4 cases information was laid to the authorised officer but the cases were dismissed by the magistrate after examination. One patient was found to be not of unsound mind but in need of hospitalisation for his physical condition, but patient refused treatment.

2. Visits were made to homes of mental defectives in mental defective colonies in order that reports on home conditions could be submitted to the colonies concerned.
3. In the case of 10 men and 24 women admissions were arranged to chronic sick wards for local general practitioners during the year.



4. Four men and eleven women and children were admitted to residential accommodation on behalf of the County Welfare Officer.
5. Arrangements were made for the admission of one mentally defective child to a colony.
6. Three cases where requests were made for admission to chronic sick wards were referred to the Divisional Medical Officer for Home Help, no accommodation in hospital being available.
7. One patient committed suicide before arrangements could be made for her admission to hospital.
8. After care visits have been made to patients discharged from mental hospitals on numerous occasions during the year with a view to assisting them to rehabilitate themselves in public life.
9. Domiciliary supervision visits have been made to male mentally defective patients in the area at regular intervals during the year.
10. Eighty-one items of nursing equipment have been issued from store during the year as detailed elsewhere in the Report of the Divisional Medical Officer.









